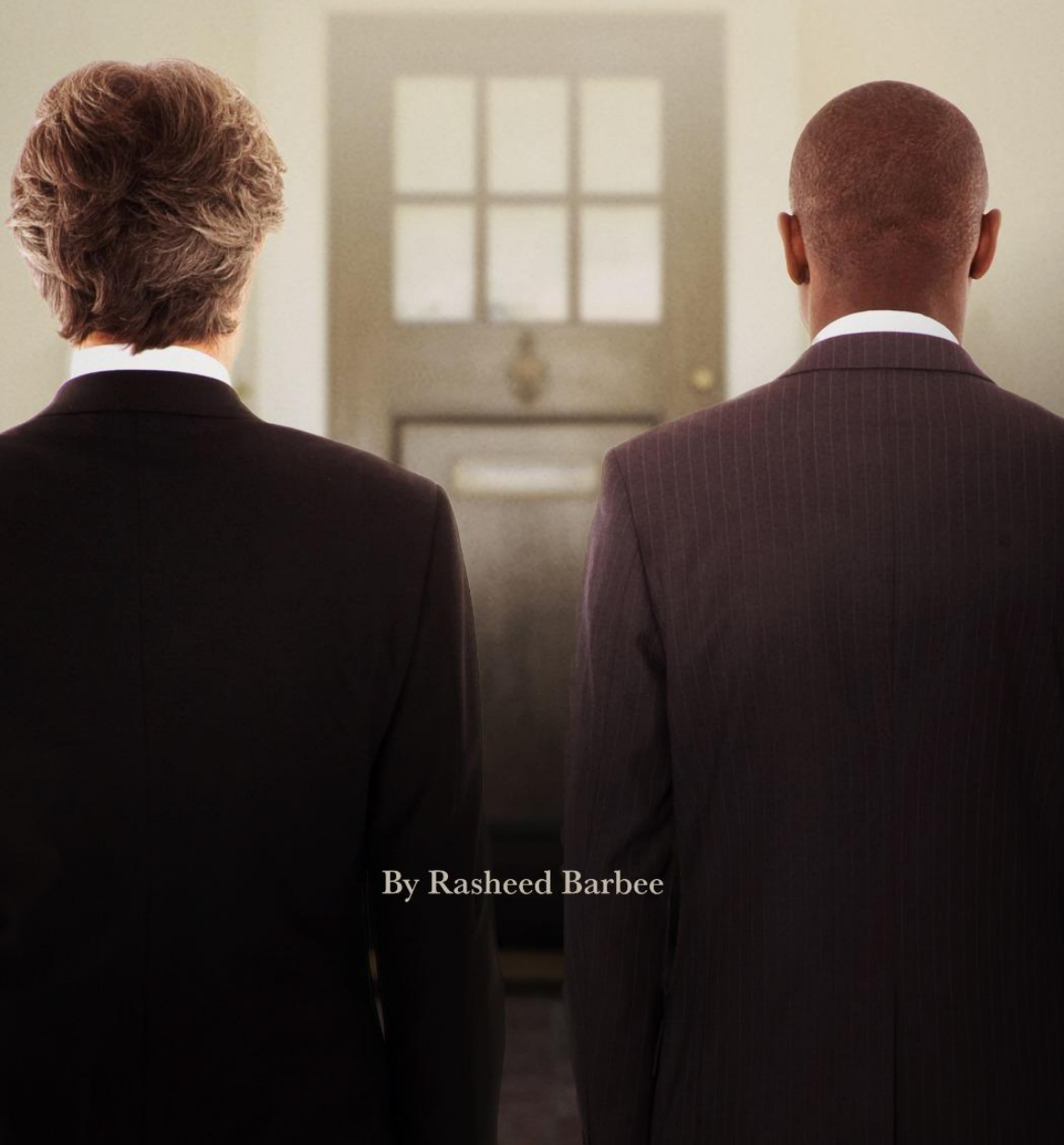


JEHOVAH'S 1874 to Judgment Day WITNESSES



By Rasheed Barbee

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Rasheed Barbee

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

AUTHOR'S INTRODUCTION

All praises belong to Allāh, alone. May Allāh exalt the rank of and bestow peace and blessings upon the final messenger, Prophet Muḥammad, and upon his family, his companions, and those who follow them until the Day of Judgment.

Jehovah's Witnesses: 1874 to Judgment Day is a concise treatise exposing the multitude of deviance, misguidance, blasphemy, polytheism, and racism within the sect known as Jehovah's Witnesses. This was written in response to the recurrent letters sent to members of the Muslim community by Jehovah's Witnesses.

The poet said, "I acquaint myself with evil, not for the sake of evil, but to be safeguarded from it. Indeed, the person who cannot distinguish good from evil will fall into evil."

I ask Allāh (ﷻ) to make it a source of benefit, and to make it sincerely for His Noble Face and a means to drawing near to the blissful gardens of Paradise.

Rasheed Barbee
Durham, North Carolina
October 2021



THE EMERGENCE

The Second Great Awakening sparked a religious revival in North America during the early 19th century. This religious revival transformed into religious activism in the late 1850s and extended to the 20th century. A number of these new religious sects attracted White America, such as The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, also known as Mormons, founded in 1830; the Seventh-day Adventist Church, founded in 1863; and the Bible Students Association now referred to as Jehovah's Witnesses, founded in 1880.

Other groups appeal to Black Americans, such as the Black Hebrew Israelites, founded in 1886; the Moorish Science Temple of America, founded in 1913; and the Nation of Islam, founded in 1930.

The most aggressive of these groups in proselytizing their ideology is undoubtedly the Jehovah's Witnesses. Jehovah's Witnesses believe Jesus returned to the earth, invisibly, in 1874. Consequently, the main objective behind their unrelenting preaching is to warn of imminent Armageddon.



ORIGIN OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

Millerism

William Miller (1782–1849) was a Freemason member of the Grand Lodge of Vermont and a Baptist preacher. He started a religious movement known as Millerism. Millerism transformed into the Adventist movement that would later spawn the Jehovah's Witnesses.

William Miller proclaimed the second coming of Jesus was imminent. He said, "My principles, in brief, are that Jesus Christ will come again to this earth, cleanse, purify, and take possession of the same, with all the saints, sometime between March 21, 1843 and March 21, 1844."¹

March 21st passed without incident, and further discussion and study resulted in the brief adoption of April 18, 1844 as the new date. Like the previous date, April 18th passed without the return of Jesus. Miller responded publicly, writing, "I confess my error, and acknowledge my disappointment; yet I still believe that the day of the Lord is near, even at the door."

Miller's final expectation for the return of Jesus was on October 22, 1844. When Jesus did not return, this date became known as "The Great Disappointment".

Henry Emmons, a Millerite, wrote, "I waited all Tuesday and dear Jesus did not come. I waited all the forenoon of Wednesday and was well in body as I ever was. But after 12 o'clock I began to feel faint, and before

dark I needed someone to help me up to my chamber, as my natural strength was leaving me very fast. And I lay prostrate for two days without any pain, sick with disappointment.”²

This disappointment caused the followers of William Miller to abandon him and form the Adventist Church.³

Adventism

Charles Taze Russell (1852–1916) was the founder of the Jehovah's Witnesses. He was born in Allegheny, Pennsylvania and his parents were of Scottish-Irish decent. Russell was raised in the Presbyterian church. His mother, Ann Birney, encouraged him to pursue a career in the Christian ministry. As a youth, Russell would often chalk warnings of the Hellfire in public places. His father, Joseph Russell, was a businessman. He helped a teenage Russell accumulate a small fortune in his haberdashery.

At age 16, Charles Russell had a conversation with a childhood friend concerning the mistakes and contradictions within Christianity. This caused Russell to stray away from religion for a few years. At age 18, he attended a lecture by Adventist minister Jonas Wendell. Although Russell did not join the Adventist group, this gathering renewed his faith in religion. He would later take much of the doctrine for the Jehovah's Witnesses from the Adventists.

Charles Russell said, “Seemingly by accident, one evening I dropped into a dusty, dingy hall, where I had heard religious services were held, to see if the handful who met there had anything more sensible to offer than the creeds of the great churches. There, for the first time, I heard something of the views of Second Adventists, the preacher being Mr. Jonas Wendell. Thus, I confess indebtedness to Adventists, as well as to other

denominations. What I heard sent me to my Bible to study with more zeal and care than ever before, and I shall ever thank the Lord for that leading. For though Adventism helped me to no single truth, it did help me greatly in the unlearning of errors; and thus, prepared me for the truth.”⁴

Adventism is a branch of Protestant Christianity that centers around the imminent Second Coming or Second Advent of Jesus (✝). Charles Russell would make this the central theme of the Jehovah’s Witnesses.

Subjects of this group include the Seventh-day Adventists and the Branch Davidians, formerly led by the late cult leader David Koresh—the central figure in the Waco, Texas massacre of 1993.



THE RETURN OF JESUS

In January 1876, Russell met Adventist preachers Nelson H. Barbour and John H. Paton, publishers of the *Herald of the Morning* periodical. Barbour had predicted a visible return of Jesus for 1873. However, when Jesus did not return, he began to teach that Jesus had returned, invisibly, in 1874. Barbour was also able to convince Russell to adopt this belief. Russell used monies acquired from his clothing business to financially support the *Herald of the Morning* publication.⁵

In 1877, Russell published 50,000 copies of the pamphlet *The Object and Manner of Our Lord’s Return*, teaching that Jesus would return, invisibly, before the battle of Armageddon. By 1878, he was teaching the Adventist view that the ‘time of the end’ had begun in 1799. He said Jesus

had returned, invisibly, in 1874 and had been crowned in heaven as king in 1878.⁶



WATCH TOWER PUBLICATION

Russell split with Barbour in July of 1879 due to a dispute over doctrine. Barbour believed in the concept of substitutionary atonement, meaning the belief that Jesus died for the sins of all humanity. Russell held on to the Adventist's belief that man inherited sin and death because of Adam's sin in the Garden of Eden. Thus, God had to pay a ransom to Himself, and Jesus was chosen as the ransom.⁷ Russell started publishing his own monthly magazine called *Zion's Watch Tower and Herald of Christ's Presence*, currently known as *The Watchtower Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom*. This monthly publication is the official means of disseminating Jehovah's Witnesses beliefs.



WATCH TOWER SOCIETY

In 1884, three years after it was formed, Charles Russell assumed duties as the president of the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania. The Society's headquarters was transferred to Brooklyn, New York in 1909 and is currently located in Warwick, New York.

Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania, sometimes referred to as the ‘Watch Tower Society’ for short, is the legal and administrative arm of Jehovah’s Witnesses. The Society directs and disseminates doctrines for the group. The number of voting shareholders is limited to between 300 and 500 mature, active, and faithful male Jehovah’s Witnesses.

The Governing Body of Jehovah’s Witnesses is the final authority and overseeing board of the Watch Tower Society. They are described as a class of anointed Christians who operate under the direct control of Jesus to exercise teaching authority in all matters pertaining to doctrine and articles of faith.⁸ The Governing Body consist of eight members. Jehovah’s Witnesses believe the Governing Body was foretold by Jesus when he mentioned a ‘faithful and discreet slave class’ that would be used to dispense God’s progressive revelations in these last days.⁹



THE NAME JEHOVAH

The first person to translate the name of God as Jehovah in the Bible was Bible translator William Tyndale (1494–1536). His Bible translation was highly criticized, such that Sir Thomas More commented that “searching for errors in the Tyndale Bible was like searching for water in the sea.” Bishop Tunstall of London declared that there were upwards of 2,000 errors in Tyndale’s Bible.

The Watch Tower Society explained their use of the name Jehovah, saying, “The name Jehovah is an English translation of the Hebrew name for God—the four letters YHWH, known as the Tetragrammaton. The

exact pronunciation of the divine name in ancient Hebrew is not known. However, the form 'Jehovah' has a long history in the English language, first appearing in William Tyndale's Bible translation of 1530."¹⁰



THE NAME JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

After the death of Charles Russell in 1916, Joseph Franklin Rutherford assumed duties as the president of the Watch Tower Society. He officially changed the name of the group to the Jehovah's Witnesses in 1931. Rutherford chose the name based upon the Bible verse, "You are my witnesses, declares the Lord" in the Book of Isaiah 43:10. The New World Translation (NWT) of the Holy Scriptures, which is the Bible translation used by Jehovah's Witnesses, replaced "Lord" in this verse with 'Jehovah.' Thus, the name 'Jehovah's Witnesses' was adopted. This Bible was produced by the New World Bible Translation Committee. At the request of the Watch Tower Society, the translators were unnamed.¹¹



BELIEFS OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

When Jehovah's Witnesses proselytize to the Muslim community, they attempt to establish common ground between their beliefs and Islām. They proclaim their religion rejects the doctrine of the trinity, as well as

the celebration of birthdays and holidays, religious or national, because these customs and practices have pagan origins. Yet they conceal their core tenets, which are derived from paganism.

Jesus was also Divine and Deserving of Worship

Jehovah's Witnesses founding fathers believed Jesus was also God and deserving of worship.

Charles Russell said, "The fact that our Lord received worship is claimed by some to be an evidence that while on earth, he was God the Father, disguised in a body of flesh and not really a man. Was he really worshipped, or is the translation faulty? Answer, yes, we believe our Lord Jesus, while on earth, was really worshipped, and properly so. It was proper for our Lord to receive worship in view of his having been the only begotten of the Father and His agent in the creation of all things, including man."¹²

Charles Russell said, "It is undoubtedly proper enough for us to address petitions (supplications) to our redeemer and advocate, who loved us and gave himself for us. Although we are nowhere instructed to make petitions to him, it evidently could not be improper so to do; for such a course is nowhere prohibited, and the disciples worshipped him."¹³

Joseph Franklin Rutherford, the second president of the Watch Tower Society, continued this doctrine of polytheism. He said, "Jehovah God commands all to worship Christ Jesus because Christ Jesus is the express image of his Father, Jehovah, and because he is the executive officer of Jehovah, always carrying out Jehovah's purpose."¹⁴

Nathan Homer Knorr, the third president of the Watch Tower Society, upheld this doctrine of polytheism. He said, "Since Jehovah God now

reigns as King by means of His capital organization Zion, then whosoever would worship Him must also worship and bow down to Jehovah's chief one in that capital organization, namely, Christ Jesus, His Co-regent on the throne of the theocracy.”¹⁵

The correct belief is that nothing deserves to be worshipped except Allāh (ﷻ). Prophet Muḥammad (ﷺ) said, “Supplication is worship.”¹⁶

Thus, Allāh (ﷻ) categorically prohibited supplicating to anyone other than Him. He said:

﴿ وَلَا تَدْعُ مَعَ اللَّهِ إِلَهًا آخَرَ ۚ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ ﴾

And do not invoke with Allāh another deity. None has the right to be worshipped except Him.

[Sūrah al-Qaṣaṣ 28:88]

Allāh (ﷻ) strictly forbade worshipping other than Him in His statement:

﴿ وَقَالَ اللَّهُ لَا تَتَّخِذُوا إِلَهَيْنِ اثْنَيْنِ ۚ إِنَّمَا هُوَ إِلَهٌ وَاحِدٌ ۚ فَإِيَّايَ

﴿ فَارْهَبُونِ ﴾

And Allāh said, “Do not take two deities for worship. He is but one God, so fear Me only.”

[Sūrah an-Naḥl 16:51]

In 1954, Zion's Watch Tower Society announced it had abandoned this creed taught by their founding fathers and declared the worship of Jesus was idolatry.

Jesus is the First Creation of Allāh

Jehovah's Witnesses believe Jesus is the first creation of Allāh and Jesus created everything else.

The Watch Tower Society said, "God created Jesus before creating Adam. In fact, God created Jesus and then used him to make everything else, including the angels."¹⁷

The belief in multiple creators is a deviant pagan belief. The upright monotheistic belief is the belief in only one Creator. Allāh (ﷻ) said:

﴿اللَّهُ خَالِقُ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَهُوَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَكِيلٌ﴾

Allāh is the Creator of all things, and He is the Disposer of affairs over all things.

[Sūrah az-Zumar 39:62]

Jesus is the Angel Mikael

The Jehovah's Witnesses belief that Jesus is the angel Mikael. The Watch Tower Society said, "Michael, the great prince, is none other than Jesus Christ himself."¹⁸

The correct belief is Jesus and Mikael are not the same. Jesus is a noble prophet and messenger, while Mikael is a noble angel. Neither are to be deified. Rather, they themselves are devout worshippers of Allāh (ﷻ), the only One deserving of worship.

﴿لَنْ يَسْتَنْكِفَ الْمَسِيحُ أَنْ يَكُونَ عَبْدًا لِلَّهِ وَلَا الْمَلَائِكَةُ الْمُقَرَّبُونَ﴾

The Messiah would never disdain to be a servant of Allāh, nor would the angels who are near (to Allāh).

[Sūrah an-Nisā' 4:172]

Jesus Returned to Earth Invisibly

Jehovah's Witnesses believe Jesus returned to earth, invisibly, in 1874.

The Watch Tower Society said, "Bible prophecy shows that the Lord was due to appear for the second time in the year 1874. Fulfilled prophecy shows beyond a doubt that he did appear in 1874."¹⁹

Only 144,000 People Will Go to Heaven

Jehovah's Witnesses believe only 144,000 people will go to heaven. These individuals will go to heaven as spirit creatures, while the rest of the 'sheep' will experience an earthly paradise in their human forms.

The Watch Tower Society said, "With the reestablishment of true Christianity near the end of the last century, more were called and chosen. But it seems that in the mid-1930s, the full number of the 144,000 was basically completed. Thus, there began to appear a group of loyal Christians with the earthly hope. Jesus termed them 'other sheep'."²⁰

Prophets Before Jesus Will Not Enter Heaven

Jehovah's Witnesses believe the prophets prior to Jesus will not enter heaven.

The Watch Tower Society said, "Jesus said, 'No man has ascended into heaven.' He, thus, showed that good people who died before him, such

as Abraham, Moses, Job, and David did not go to heaven. Instead, they had the hope of being resurrected to life on earth.”²¹

This erroneous concept of an earthly paradise is based upon an incorrect understanding of the Bible verse, “The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein forever.” (Psalms 37:29)

The correct understanding of this verse has been explained in the Quran. Allāh (ﷻ) said:

﴿وَلَقَدْ كَتَبْنَا فِي الزُّبُورِ مِنْ بَعْدِ الذِّكْرِ أَنَّ الْأَرْضَ يَرِثُهَا عِبَادِيَ
الصَّالِحُونَ﴾

**And indeed We have written in the book (of Psalms)
after the Preserved Tablet, that My righteous slaves
shall inherit the land.**

[Sūrah al-'Anbiyā' 21:105]

The noble scholar Imām al-Sa'di said in his tafsīr, “His statement ‘the land’ refers to the land of Paradise,” meaning heavenly Paradise. This is similar to what the inhabitants of Paradise will say. Allāh (ﷻ) says:

﴿وَقَالُوا الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي صَدَقَنَا وَعْدَهُ وَأَوْرَثَنَا الْأَرْضَ نَتَبَوَّأُ مِنَ الْجَنَّةِ حَيْثُ
نَشَاءُ ۖ فَنِعْمَ أَجْرُ الْعَامِلِينَ﴾

**And they will say, “All the praises and thanks be to
Allāh Who has fulfilled His promise to us and has made
us inherit the land. We can dwell in Paradise wherever
we will. How excellent a reward for the pious workers!”**

[Sūrah az-Zumar 39:74]

Inhabitants of Heaven Will Form New Heavens

Jehovah's Witnesses believe the 144,000 who go to heaven will form new heavens and rule over the earth.

The Watch Tower Society said, "They will serve alongside Jesus as kings and priests for 1,000 years. They will form the new heavens, or heavenly government, that will rule over the new earth, or earthly society. Those heavenly rulers will help restore mankind to the righteous conditions that God originally intended."²²

In reality, Allāh (ﷻ) is the sole King of the universe, and He, alone, rules the heavens and the earth. Allāh (ﷻ) said:

﴿وَلَا يُشْرِكُ فِي حُكْمِهِ أَحَدًا﴾

And He does not share His legislation with anyone.

[Sūrah al-Kahf 18:26]

Hellfire Does Not Exist

Jehovah's Witnesses do not believe in the Hellfire. They believe in annihilationism, the belief that the wicked will perish without being punished in the Hellfire.

The Watch Tower Society said, "Death, not torment in a fiery hell, is the penalty for sin."²³

Man is not Accountable for His Actions in This Life

Jehovah's Witnesses believe no one will be judged according to the deeds they did during their lifetime. Instead, everyone will be judged according to the deeds they do on the Day of Judgment!

The Watch Tower Society said, "Are these scrolls the record of people's past deeds? No, the judgment will not focus on what people did before they died. The Bible says, 'The one who has died has been acquitted from his sin.' Those resurrected, thus, come to life with a clean slate so to speak. The scrolls must, therefore, represent God's further requirements. To live forever, both Armageddon survivors and resurrected ones will have to obey God's commandments, including whatever new requirements Jehovah might reveal during the 1000 years. Thus, individuals will be judged on the basis of what they do during Judgment Day."²⁴

This belief held by the Jehovah's Witnesses is illogical. If mankind is not accountable for their actions in this life and everyone will be resurrected with a clean slate, then this life has no purpose and no meaning. This concept goes against Scripture, the perfect Wisdom and Justice of Allāh (ﷻ), and basic common sense.

Allāh (ﷻ)said:

﴿ أَمْ حَسِبَ الَّذِينَ اجْتَرَحُوا السَّيِّئَاتِ أَنْ نَجْعَلَهُمْ كَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ سَوَاءً مَحْيَاهُمْ وَمَمَاتُهُمْ ۚ سَاءَ مَا يَحْكُمُونَ ﴾

Or do those who earn evil deeds think that We shall hold them equal with those who believe and

do righteous good deeds, in their present life and after their death? Worst is the judgement that they make.

[Sūrah al-Jāthiyah 45:21]

Armageddon is Battle Against Earthly Governments

Jehovah's Witnesses believe the Battle of Armageddon is the final battle between a heavenly army and corrupt earthly governments, and only Jehovah's Witnesses will survive Armageddon.

The Watch Tower Society said, "The Battle of Armageddon refers to the final war between human governments and God. The Battle of Armageddon will bring human rulership to an end. Jesus Christ will lead a heavenly army to victory over God's enemies. While we do not know how God will use His power, He will have at His disposal weapons such as those He has used in the past—hail, earthquakes, flooding downpour, fire and sulfur, lightning, and disease. The Bible does show that Armageddon takes place during Jesus' invisible presence, which began in 1914."²⁵

The Watch Tower Society indoctrinated their followers to believe that during the Battle of Armageddon, the corrupt nations will attack Jehovah's Witnesses around the world, and Jesus will descend from heaven with an army to save them.

The Watch Tower Society said, "After the destruction of all false religious organizations, God's people will stand out like a lone tree that survived a fierce storm. Satan, of course, will be enraged. He will vent that rage by using demonic propaganda to cause a coalition of nations to turn on Jehovah's servants. That coalition is called 'Gog of the land of Ma-

gog.’ When the nations launch their attack, they will have arrived at the symbolic place called Armageddon. Christ and his heavenly armies will defend God’s people and crush Gog’s hordes. Jesus will hurl Satan and his demons into an abyss, where they will be locked away for a thousand years.”²⁶

The Holy Spirit is Not the Angel Jibrīl

Jehovah’s Witnesses believe the holy spirit is not the angel Jibrīl. Rather, they believe the holy spirit is the force of Allāh (ﷻ).

The Watch Tower Society said, “We might illustrate these facts by likening God to an electric power plant. It has a certain location on a certain street in a city. But its electricity is distributed over all the city, providing light and power. And so with Jehovah God. He has a location in the highest heavens, but His active force, His holy spirit, furnishes enlightenment, and its force can be felt everywhere, over all the universe.”²⁷

The correct belief is the Holy spirit is in fact the noble angel Jibrīl (ﷻ).

Allāh (ﷻ) said,

﴿إِذْ قَالَ اللَّهُ يَا عِيسَى ابْنَ مَرْيَمَ اذْكُرْ نِعْمَتِي عَلَيْكَ وَعَلَىٰ وَالِدَتِكَ إِذْ
أَتَيْتُكَ بِرُوحِ الْقُدُسِ﴾

(Remember) when Allāh will say (on the Day of Resurrection), “O Jesus, son of Maryam! Remember My favor to you and to your mother when I supported you with the Holy spirit.”

[Sūrah al-Mā'idah 5:110]

Shaykh al-Islām Ibn Taymiyah said, “The consensus of scholars says this refers to Jibrīl (جبريل), and that Allāh called him the trustworthy spirit, the Holy spirit and Jibrīl.”²⁸

Man Can Become Divine

Charles Russell taught the doctrine of theosis, the belief that man can become divine.

Charles Russell said, “Our high calling is so great, so much above the comprehension of men, that they feel that we are guilty of blasphemy when we speak of being ‘new creatures’, not any longer human but ‘partakers of the divine nature.’ When we claim, on the scriptural warrant, that we are begotten of a divine nature and that Jehovah is thus our father, it is claiming that we are divine beings—hence, all such are Gods. Thus, we have a family of Gods, Jehovah being our father, and all His sons being brethren and joint heirs, Jesus being the chief or first-born. Now we appear like men, and all die naturally like men, but in the resurrection, we will rise in our true character as Gods.”²⁹

Other cults who share the blasphemous doctrine of theosis are the Mormons, the Nation of Islam, and the Five-Percent Nation.

Mormon leader Brigham Young, the second president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, said, “All those who are counted worthy to be exalted and to become Gods, even the sons of God, will go forth and have earths and worlds like those who framed this and millions on millions of others.”³⁰

Belief in Pyramidology

Charles Russell adopted the belief of Lutheran minister Joseph Seiss, that the Great Pyramid of Giza was ‘the Bible in stone’. He taught his followers that this pyramid played a significant role in Allāh’s plan during the last days.³¹

Angels Rebelled Against Allāh (ﷻ)

Jehovah’s Witnesses believe a group of angels rebelled against Allāh (ﷻ), so they could descend to earth to have sexual relations with women.

The Watch Tower Society said, “Later, other angels turned bad. These angels noticed the good-looking women on earth and wanted to have sexual relations with them. So, they came to the earth and put on male human bodies. Then they took the women for themselves. It also caused much trouble for mankind. The wives of these angels bore children, but they were not normal children. They grew to be violent and cruel giants. Eventually, the earth became so filled with violence that Jehovah decided to destroy the wicked people by a great flood. The only humans who survived the flood were righteous Noah and his family. The wicked angels, however, returned to the spirit realm. They did not die, but they were punished. They were not allowed back into God’s family of righteous angels. Furthermore, Jehovah no longer allowed them to put on human bodies. And eventually they will die in the great judgment.”³²

The correct belief is that angels never disobey Allāh. Thus, the fallen angel myth is false.

Allāh (ﷻ) described the angels in His statement:

﴿لَا يَعْصُونَ اللَّهَ مَا أَمَرَهُمْ وَيَفْعَلُونَ مَا يُؤْمَرُونَ﴾

They do not disobey Allāh in what He commands them; rather, they do what they are commanded.

[Sūrah at-Taḥrīm 66:6]

Satan is from the spirit creatures referred to as jinn. Angels, jinn, and humans are three separated entities. The Messenger of Allāh (ﷺ) said, “Angels were created from light, jinn were created from a smokeless flame of fire, and Ādam was created from that which has been described to you (sounding clay).”³³

Satan Was Cast Down to Earth in the 20th Century

Jehovah's Witnesses believe Satan was cast down to earth in the 20th century.

The Watch Tower Society said, “In the early part of our century, there was a war in heaven. Michael, the resurrected Jesus Christ, and his good angels battled with the dragon, Satan, and the dragon and its bad angels battled but it did not prevail, neither was a place found for them any longer in heaven. So down the great dragon was hurled, the original serpent, the one called Devil and Satan, who is misleading the entire inhabited earth. He was hurled down to the earth, and his bad angels were hurled down with him.”³⁴

Crucifixion

Jehovah's Witnesses believe Jesus (ﷺ) was crucified on a single wooden stake, not a cross.

Allāh (ﷻ) refuted the story of the crucifixion. He said:

﴿وَقَوْلِهِمْ إِنَّا قَتَلْنَا الْمَسِيحَ عِيسَى ابْنَ مَرْيَمَ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ وَمَا قَتَلُوهُ وَمَا صَلَٰبُوهُ وَلَكِنْ شُبِّهَ لَهُمْ ؕ وَإِنَّ الَّذِينَ اخْتَلَفُوا فِيهِ لَفِي شَكٍّ مِّنْهُ ؕ مَا لَهُمْ بِهِ مِنْ عِلْمٍ إِلَّا اتِّبَاعَ الظَّنِّ ؕ وَمَا قَتَلُوهُ يَقِينًا ﴿١٥٧﴾ بَلْ رَفَعَهُ اللَّهُ إِلَيْهِ ؕ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ عَزِيزًا حَكِيمًا ﴿١٥٨﴾﴾

And because of their saying (in boast), “We killed the Messiah Jesus, son of Maryam, the Messenger of Allāh,” but they killed him not, nor crucified him, but his resemblance was put over another man (and they killed that man), and those who differ therein are full of doubts. They have no certain knowledge; they follow nothing but conjecture. For surely, they killed him not. Rather, Allāh raised him to Himself. And Allāh is Ever All-Powerful, All-Wise.

[Sūrah an-Nisā' 4:157]



HOLIDAYS

The only holiday Jehovah's Witnesses commemorate annually is the Memorial of Christ's Death, also known as the Lord's Evening Meal. The date corresponds with Passover on the 14th of the Hebrew month of Nisan. The Memorial, held after sunset, includes a talk on the meaning of the celebration and the circulation among the audience of undiluted alcoholic red wine and unleavened bread. The only attendees

allowed to partake in the bread and wine are the remnants of the 144,000 heavenly class.

The Watch Tower Society said, "Who should partake of these Memorial emblems? Logically, only those in the new covenant. That is, those who have the hope of going to heaven should partake of the bread and the wine. God's holy spirit convinces such ones that they have been selected to be heavenly kings. What about those who have the hope of living forever in paradise on earth? They obey Jesus' command and attend the Lord's Evening Meal, but they come as respectful observers, not partakers."³⁵



A HISTORY OF RACISM

From the superiority of Islām is that the issue of racism was addressed over 1400 years ago. Allāh (ﷻ) said:

﴿يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ

لِتَعَارَفُوا ۚ إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتْقَاكُمْ ۚ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ﴾ ﴿١٣﴾

O mankind, indeed, We have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another. Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allāh is the most righteous of you. Indeed, Allāh is All-Knowing, All-Aware.

[Sūrah al-Hujurāt 49:13]

Prophet Muḥammad (ﷺ) said, “O people, verily your Lord is One and your father (Ādam) is one. Verily, there is no superiority of an Arab over a non-Arab or of a non-Arab over an Arab, or of a white man over a black man, or of a black man over a white man, except in terms of piety. Have I conveyed the message?” They said, “The Messenger of Allāh (ﷺ) has conveyed the message.”³⁶

Watch Tower Society Taught White Supremacy

In the 20th century, the Jehovah’s Witnesses taught the false belief that the Caucasian race was superior to all other races.

Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society published an article stating, “We are not to forget, either, that Africa is inhabited by various tribes or nations of negroes, some more and some less degraded than the average. The white race exhibits some qualities of superiority over any other. The secret of the greater intelligence and aptitude of the Caucasian undoubtedly in great measure is to be attributed to the commingling of blood amongst its various branches; and this was evidently forced in large measure by circumstances under divine control.”³⁷

Charles Russell Believed Black Skin was a Disease

Charles Russell, the founder of the Jehovah’s Witnesses cult, even suggested black skin was a disease that could be cured. He said, “Can the Ethiopian change his skin? What the Ethiopian cannot do for himself God could readily do for him. God can change the Ethiopian’s skin in His own due time. Professor H. A. Edwards, in Slater, Missouri, has written for the public press an elaborate description of how Julius Jackson of New Frankfurt, Missouri—a negro boy of nine years—began to grow white in September 1901 and is now fully nine-tenths white. He

assures us that this is no whitish skin disease; but that the new white skin is as healthy as that of any white boy, and that the changed boy has never been sick and never has taken medicines.”³⁸

Praying for a Cure for Black Skin

A black pastor from the Jehovah's Witnesses suffered the skin condition vitiligo. This condition causes loss of skin color in patches. The Jehovah's Witnesses believed the white patches on his skin were the answer to his prayers.

The Watch Tower Society wrote, “Reverend William H Draper gave a living affirmative answer to the famous Biblical question, ‘Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard his spots?’ Though once as black as charcoal, the Reverend Mr. Draper is now white. His people say that his color was changed in answer to prayer. Many years ago, Draper was employed by a fair-skinned man, and he was often heard to remark that if he could only be white like his employer, he would be happy. While in the white man's service, Draper experienced religion. From that day forward, he prayed constantly and fervently that he might become white. He first experienced a prickling sensation on his face, and upon close investigation found a number of small white spots scarcely larger than the point of a pin. He became alarmed, thinking he had some peculiar disease, but he did not suffer and aside from the prickling sensation felt nothing unusual. Gradually, the white spots became larger and extended themselves, until now, after the change has been in progress for over 30 years, Draper has not a single dark spot on his body.”³⁹

Black Jehovah Witnesses Segregated

While viewing a Watch Tower produced film entitled *The Photo-Drama of Creation*, blacks were forced to sit in the balcony away from the whites. The Watch Tower Society issued the following statement.

“We might have anticipated that many colored people would be deeply interested in *The Photo-Drama of Creation*. But it did not impress itself upon us until gradually their number increased to about twenty-five per cent of the whole audience. Of course, we were glad to see them, glad that they were interested in the drama. We had the same feeling respecting them as others. However, it was quickly discerned that it was not a case of feeling, but that, whereas the colored people of New York City are about five percent of the population, in our audiences they are about twenty-five percent, and the number is increasing. What shall we do? As the attendance of the colored people would increase, proportionately the number of the whites would decrease. For explain it how we will, a majority of whites prefer not to intermingle closely with other races. Recognizing that it meant either the success or the failure of the enterprise of the drama as respects the whites. We have been compelled to assign the colored friends to the gallery which, however, is just as good for seeing and hearing as any other part of The Temple.”⁴⁰

Blacks Enjoy Serving Whites

An article in *Awake!* magazine stated, “There is no servant in the world as good as a good colored servant, and the joy that he gets from rendering faithful service is one of the purest joys there is in the world.”⁴¹

Black Priests are Gross, Immoral, and Deceitful

The Watch Tower Society published the official report on black missionaries by Sir Henry Hamilton Johnston. He said, "It too often happens that, while the negro rapidly masters the rules and regulations of the Christian religion, he still continues to be gross, immoral, and deceitful."

And he reported, "I regret to say that, with a few, very rare, exceptions, those native African pastors, teachers, and catechists whom I have met have been all, more or less, bad men. While it was apparent that not one particle of true religion had made its way into their gross minds, it was also evident that the spirit of sturdy manliness which was present in their savage forefathers found no place in their false, cowardly natures."⁴²

This shameful, narrow-minded bigotry was completely rejected by Islām from the onset. The noble scholar Ibn Taymiyyah (رحمہ اللہ) said, "There is not in the Book of Allāh one verse that praises or disparages anyone based upon their lineage. There is only praise for those with faith and piety, and criticism for those with disbelief, wickedness, and sin."⁴³

Subtle Racism

The official website of Jehovah's Witnesses is saturated with subtle racist undertones. In an article published on their official website titled "Who Goes to Heaven," it states only 144,000 of the elite will enter paradise and they will establish new governments with Jesus. The picture captioned above the article illustrates an assembly of elder white men sitting on green chairs overlooking the earth. This picture contains no people of color and no women.

In contrast, in an article published on their official website titled “The Demons Are Killers!”, the captioned picture posted in the article is that of a black man, angrily pointing a revolver, with demons hovering over his head!

More blasphemous than this, is their depiction of Allāh (ﷻ). In an article titled “Rebellion in the Spirit Realm,” Allāh (ﷻ) is depicted as a blue-eyed, elderly, white man, peering down at Eve and Satan from Heaven.

Allāh (ﷻ) is far exalted above their evil illustrations! Allāh (ﷻ) has no likeness, no equal, and nothing is similar to Him. Allāh is not a man, He is not a spirit, He is not an angel. Allāh (ﷻ) said:

﴿لَيْسَ كَمِثْلِهِ شَيْءٌ ۚ وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ﴾

There is nothing like unto Him, and He is the All-Hearer, the All-Seer.

[Sūrah ash-Shūrā 42:11]



FALSE PROPHECIES AND PREDICTIONS

No one knows when the Day of Judgment will occur except Allāh (ﷻ). Allāh said:

﴿ يَسْأَلُونَكَ عَنِ السَّاعَةِ أَيَّانَ مُرْسَاهَا ۖ قُلْ إِنَّمَا عِلْمُهَا عِنْدَ رَبِّي ۖ لَا يُجَلِّيهَا لِوَقْتِهَا إِلَّا هُوَ ۖ تَقُولُ فِي السَّمَاءَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ ۚ لَا تَأْتِيكُمْ إِلَّا بَغْتَةً ۖ يَسْأَلُونَكَ كَأَنَّكَ حَفِيٌّ عَنْهَا ۖ قُلْ إِنَّمَا عِلْمُهَا عِنْدَ اللَّهِ وَلَكِنَّ أَكْثَرَ النَّاسِ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴾

They ask you, (O Muḥammad), about the Hour (Day of Resurrection): when is its arrival? Say, "Its knowledge is only with my Lord. None will reveal its time except Him. It lays heavily upon the heavens and the earth. It will not come upon you except unexpectedly." They ask you as if you are familiar with it. Say, "Its knowledge is only with Allāh, but most of the people do not know."

[Sūrah al-'A'rāf 7:187]

Representatives of the Watch Tower Society assert that they have been given insight into the true meaning of the Bible and the unique ability to discern the signs of Jesus' second coming and Armageddon.⁴⁴

Charles Russell and the Watch Tower Society used the *day-year principle* to try and predict major world events. This is a method of interpretation of Bible prophecy in which the word *day* in prophecy is symbolic of a year of actual time. Seven-day Adventist and Bahá'í Faith also use this principle. Russell attempted to use this method to predict the end of the world.

Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society Publications predicted the second coming of Jesus son of Maryam (ﷺ) would occur during the years 1878, 1881, 1914, 1918, and 1925. Each of these predictions went unfulfilled; and thus, later reinterpreted as having taken place invisibly.

The Rapture and Harvest of 1878

In 1876, Russell promoted the belief that he adopted from Nelson Barbour, that the presence of Jesus had begun in 1874 and that the saints would be physically taken to heaven in the rapture of 1878. The remainder of the 144,000 people promised paradise who would die after 1878, would each be resurrected at the time of their death.⁴⁵

The Revised Harvest of 1881

When the rapture of 1878 failed to materialize, Russell said, “Coming to the spring of 1878, we naturally and not unreasonably expected some change of our condition, and all were more or less disappointed when nothing supernatural occurred.”⁴⁶

He then extended the date for the physical rapture to 1881. When this second date failed, he consoled his followers by saying “death during the year 1881 would be a blessing, any saint who died would instantaneously be transformed into a spirit being.”⁴⁷

Armageddon of 1914

Charles Russell believed the conclusion of Armageddon would occur in 1914, preceded by the gathering of all the saints, both resurrected and living, to heaven. Based on dimensions from the Great Pyramid of Giza, this rapture was expected before the end of 1910.

Russell said, “This date, 1910, indicated by the pyramid, we may accept as correct the testimony of the great pyramid, that the last members of the body or bride of Christ will have been tested and accepted, and will have passed beyond the veil before the close of A.D. 1910.”⁴⁸

When the world did not end in 1914, Russell stretched the date to the end of 1915. He said, "In view of this strong Bible evidence concerning the Times of the Gentiles, we consider it an established truth that the final end of the kingdoms of this world, and the full establishment of the Kingdom of God, will be accomplished near the end of A.D. 1915."⁴⁹

A few months before his death in 1916, Russell admitted he was incorrect in his predictions. He said, "We believe that the dates have proven to be quite right. We believe that Gentile Times have ended. The Lord did not say that the Church would all be glorified by 1914. We merely inferred it, and, evidently, erred."⁵⁰

The End of All Religion in 1918

Joseph Franklin Rutherford, second president of the Watch Tower Society, predicted the *harvest work* would end in 1918, with the destruction of all religion. Rutherford said, "The parallel, therefore, would establish definitely that the harvest would close 40 years thereafter; to wit, in the spring of A.D. 1918. If this be true, and the evidence is very conclusive that it is true, then we have only a few months in which to labor before the great night settles down when no man can work."⁵¹

And he said, "The harvest began in 1878. There is ample and convincing proof. The end of the harvest is due in the spring of 1918."⁵²

The Resurrection of 1925

Rutherford established a worldwide lecture series entitled "Millions Now Living Will Never Die!" He stated 1914 was not the end of the world as Charles Russell had previously predicted, but it was the begin-

ning of the end of the world. And millions of people on earth now would never die.

Rutherford said, "Based upon the argument heretofore set forth, then, that the old order of things, the old world, is ending and is therefore passing away, and that the new order is coming in, and that 1925 shall mark the resurrection of the faithful worthies of old and the beginning of reconstruction, it is reasonable to conclude that millions of people now on the earth will be still on the earth in 1925. Then, based upon the promises set forth in the divine Word, we must reach the positive and indisputable conclusion that millions now living will never die."⁵³

The Armageddon of 1975

In 1968, the Watch Tower Society established a new date for Armageddon, September 1975. The Watch Tower Society stated, "From the most reliable investigations of Bible chronology, we find that Adam was created in the autumn of the year 4026 B.C.E. Sometime in that same year, Eve could well have been created, directly after which God's rest day commenced. In what year, then, would the first 6,000 years of man's existence, and also the first 6,000 years of God's rest day, come to an end? The year 1975."⁵⁴

Thus, the popular slogan was 'Stay alive until 75!' Devout members began to sell their homes, drop out of college, and quit jobs a few years away from retirement, so they could spend their final days proselytizing, also referred to as pioneering.

The Watch Tower Society commended this, saying, "Reports are heard of brothers selling their homes and property, and planning to finish out the rest of their days in this old system in the pioneer service. Certainly,

this is a fine way to spend the short time remaining before the wicked world's end."⁵⁵

In late September, newspapers began to mock another failed prophecy. Boca Raton News published an article on September 21, 1975, titled "End of the World Delayed Again".

The Watch Tower Society were sent scrambling to find excuses as to why the world did not end. They put out the following statement, "It shows a time lapse between the creation of Adam and that of his wife, Eve. During that time, God had Adam name the animals. Whether that period amounted to weeks or months or years, we do not know."⁵⁶



CHANGING DOCTRINE

Jehovah's Witnesses are bred to accept doctrinal changes and scriptural distortions, as 'new light' or 'new understanding' from God. But these contradictions are clear evidence that their doctrine is not from Allāh (ﷻ).

﴿ أَفَلَا يَتَذَكَّرُونَ الْقُرْآنَ ۚ وَلَوْ كَانَ مِنْ عِنْدِ غَيْرِ اللَّهِ لَوَجَدُوا فِيهِ اخْتِلَافًا



**Do they not then consider the Qur'ān carefully? Had it
been from other than Allāh, they would surely have
found therein many contradictions.**

[Sūrah an-Nisā' 4:82]

Throughout their history, Jehovah's Witnesses have endured countless changes to their doctrine. I will mention a few of the major changes concerning their creed.

Old belief: Pyramid of Giza is the Bible in Stone. In 1881, Charles Russell declared the Great Pyramid of Giza was the Bible in stone. He devoted an entire chapter to the pyramid theory in his book *Studies in Scripture*.

New belief: Pyramid of Giza is from Satan. In 1928, Joseph Franklin Rutherford, the second president of the Watch Tower Society, declared the pyramid theory was not ordained by God. He wrote, "It is more reasonable to conclude that the Great Pyramid of Giza, as well as the other pyramids thereabout, also the Sphinx, were built by the rulers of Egypt and under the direction of Satan the devil."⁵⁷

Old belief: Allāh is All-Knowing. The Watch Tower Society said, "He is also the Omniscient One."⁵⁸

New belief: Allāh is not All-Knowing. The Watch Tower Society said, "Clearly, Jehovah did not know beforehand that the first couple would sin."⁵⁹

Old belief: Allāh lives on Pleiades (an open star cluster). Joseph Rutherford said, "The face of the deep, of course, would be toward the Pleiades, which are understood to be the habitation of Jehovah."⁶⁰

New belief: Allāh does not live on Pleiades. Watch Society said, "Pleiades can no longer be considered the center of the universe and it would be unwise for us to try to fix God's throne as being at a particular spot in the universe. Were we to think of the Pleiades as His throne, we might improperly view with special veneration that cluster of stars."⁶¹

Old belief: Jesus is not Michael, the archangel. The Watch Tower Society said, "Let all the angels of God worship him." (Hebrews 1:6) That must include Michael, the chief angel. Hence, Michael is not the Son of God.⁶²

New belief: Jesus is Michael, the archangel. The Watch Tower Society said, "There is scriptural evidence for concluding that Michael was the name of Jesus Christ before he left heaven and after his return."⁶³

Old belief: Prayer to Jesus is correct. Charles Russell said, "It is undoubtedly proper enough for us to address petitions (supplications) to our redeemer and advocate, who loved us and gave himself for us."⁶⁴

New belief: Prayer to Jesus is incorrect. The Watch Tower Society was asked, "Should Christians pray to Jesus Christ?" They replied, "No."⁶⁵

Old belief: Satan was cast out of heaven in 1914. Joseph Rutherford said, "In 1914, Satan was cast out of heaven, down to the earth."⁶⁶

New belief: Satan was cast out of heaven in 1918. The Watch Tower Society said, "This resulted in Satan's complete defeat by 1918, when he and his wicked forces were ejected from the heavenly realm to be cast downward into the vicinity of the earth."⁶⁷

Old belief: Christian Zionism is correct. Charles Russell believed that the land of Palestine belonged exclusively to the Jewish race and the Jews should not convert to Christianity. He taught that 1914 marked the time when Gentile nations no longer had earthly authority. Therefore, all Jews were, from that time onward, permitted and guided by God to gather to Palestine and boldly reclaim the land for themselves.⁶⁸

New belief: Christian Zionism is incorrect. The Watch Tower Society said, "There is no scriptural support for political Zionism."⁶⁹

These doctrinal changes are proof they have distorted the scripture.

﴿قَوْلٍ لِلَّذِينَ يَكْتُبُونَ الْكِتَابَ بِأَيْدِيهِمْ ثُمَّ يَقُولُونَ هَذَا مِنْ عِنْدِ اللَّهِ لِيَشْتَرُوا

بِهِ ثَمَنًا قَلِيلًا قَوْلٍ لَهُمْ مِمَّا كَتَبَتْ أَيْدِيهِمْ وَقَوْلٍ لَهُمْ مِمَّا يَكْسِبُونَ﴾

Then woe to those who write the Book with their own hands and then say, “This is from Allāh,” to purchase with it a little price! Woe to them for what their hands have written and woe to them for what they earn.

[Sūrah al-Baqarah 2:79]



DISSENT INSIDE THE WATCH TOWER

Charles Russell, the founder of Jehovah’s Witnesses, was married to Maria Frances Ackley. In 1897, his wife, Maria, left him after a disagreement over the management of *Zion’s Watch Tower* magazine. According to Russell’s successor, Joseph Rutherford, she believed that, as his wife, she should have equal control over its administration and equal privilege in writing articles, preaching, and traveling abroad as his representative.⁷⁰

In 1903, after 18 years of childless marriage, she filed for legal separation on the grounds of mental cruelty, referring to forced celibacy and frequent cold, indifferent treatment by him. The separation was granted in 1906, with Russell charged to pay alimony.

During the trial, Mrs. Maria Russell's attorney alleged that in 1894, Charles Russell had engaged in improper intimacy with Rose Ball, a 25-year-old woman. Ms. Ball had been a foster child in their care. There were other allegations that Pastor Russell had the habit of locking himself in a room with female members of his congregation. After a meeting with his congregation, Russell took a vow, saying, "So far as reasonably possible, I will avoid being in the same room with any of the opposite sex, alone, unless the door to the room stands wide open."⁷¹

Prophet Muḥammad (ﷺ) said, "A man must not be alone with a woman except in the presence of her male relative."⁷²

And he said, "Whenever a man is alone with a non-related woman, the devil is the third person with them."⁷³

Thus, Islām provided the solution for Russell's dilemma over 1400 years ago.

Raymond Franz (1922–2010) was a member of the Governing Body of Jehovah's Witnesses from October 20, 1971 until May 22, 1980. He served at their world headquarters for fifteen years. His uncle, Frederick William Franz (1893–1992) served as president of the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania.

Raymond Franz, and his wife, became frustrated by what they viewed as the Governing Body's dogmatism and overemphasis on organizational views rather than reliance on the Bible in reaching doctrinal decisions.

Raymond Franz said, "I could not accept that the (Watch Tower) organizational interpretations, based on shifting human reasoning, could ever be made equal in authority to the actual statements found in God's unchangeable Word."⁷⁴

In late 1979, Franz and his wife decided to leave the international headquarters. He resigned from his post and was subsequently disfellowshipped for accusations of apostasy. He later authored two books criticizing his former faith.

Franz wrote, “I had spent nearly 40 years as a full-time representative, serving at every level of the organizational structure. The last 15 years I had spent at the international headquarters, and the final nine of those as a member of the worldwide Governing Body of Jehovah’s Witnesses. It was those final years that were the crucial period for me. Illusions there met up with reality. I have since come to appreciate the rightness of a quotation I recently read, one made by a statesman, John F. Kennedy—now dead—who said, “The great enemy of the truth is very often not the lie—deliberate, contrived and dishonest, but the myth—persistent, persuasive and unrealistic.” I now began to realize how large a measure of what I had based my entire adult life course on was just that, a myth—persistent, persuasive, and unrealistic.”⁷⁵



CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Concealing sexual abuse to protect the molester’s reputation or the reputation of the organization at the expense of the victim is reprehensible, especially when it involves a child. These secrets are not honored. They must be exposed to bring justice to the victim and protect potential targets.

Prophet Muḥammad (ﷺ) said, “The gathering is a trust except for three gatherings, the gathering where the person speaks of spilling blood

which is protected, or having sexual intercourse with someone impermissible for them, or acquiring wealth unjustly.”⁷⁶

The great scholar Shaykh ‘Abdul Muhsin al-Badr said, “In general, private gatherings are a trust and not disclosed, but the exception is when someone intends to do an affair which is evil and dangerous. It is not possible to be silent about this because it will result in great harm. Thus, this information is not kept secret; rather, it is told to those in authority. This applies to the case where murder, fornication, or other evils are intended.”⁷⁷

BBC News reported that the Watch Tower Society employs organizational policies which the group says are ‘Bible-based,’ that make the reporting of sexual abuse difficult for members. Some victims of sexual abuse have said they were ordered by local elders to maintain silence to avoid embarrassment to both the accused and the organization.⁷⁸ Meanwhile, child victims of abuse are interrogated and required to provide details of their abuse to a group of male elders, which no doubt causes them additional trauma and embarrassment.⁷⁹

The practice of the Jehovah’s Witness church is to retain a database regarding child sexual abuse offences, but not to report allegations of child sexual abuse to the police or other relevant authorities. In 2015, it was disclosed by the Australian Royal Commission that the Australia Branch of Jehovah’s Witnesses had records of 1,006 alleged perpetrators of child sexual abuse, relating to more than 1,800 victims since 1950, none of which were reported to police by the group.⁸⁰

The Center for Investigative Reporting said, “Watch Tower lawyers, who refused to speak with us, are again claiming a First Amendment defense to keep child abuse in its congregations secret.”⁸¹

Not only is abuse not reported, but in many cases the perpetrator retains his status and duties based on the discretion of the Watch Tower Society. The Watch Tower Society sent a memo to local congregations stating, “Not every individual who has sexually abused a child in the past is considered a predator. The Watch Tower, not the local body of elders, determines whether an individual who has sexually abused children in the past will be considered a predator.”⁸²

According to Watch Tower Society spokesperson J. R. Brown, sex offenders are still permitted to participate in the congregation’s house-to-house preaching when accompanied by a responsible adult.⁸³

The Watch Tower Society has faced numerous lawsuits for failure to protect children in their congregation. In June 2012, the Superior Court of Alameda, California, ordered the Watch Tower Society to pay twenty-one million dollars in punitive damages. In addition to compensatory damages, the court held that the Society’s policy not to disclose the child abuse history of a member to parents in the congregation, or to report abuse to authorities, contributed to the sexual abuse of a nine-year-old girl.⁸⁴

In June 2015, the High Court of Justice in London awarded damages of 275,000 British pounds to the victim for the failure of Jehovah’s Witnesses to protect her from known pedophile Peter Stewart. Stewart abused her from the age of four and threatened that she would be ‘damned as a sinner’ if she told anyone about the abuse. The elders became aware of the abuse in 1990 and announced that Stewart had been given a disciplinary reprimand without specifying the reason. The abuse ended only when Stewart was arrested for offenses against another child in 1994.⁸⁵

Irwin Zalkin, founding partner of The Zalkin Law Firm, representing clergy sexual abuse survivors, said the policy of the Jehovah's Witness hierarchy is, "Keep your mouth shut. Don't go to law enforcement. You come to us first. Don't tell anybody. You don't warn parents in the congregation. We'll decide what happens here."

Mr. Zalkin represented a man who was molested at the age of seven by a predator who operated within a congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses in San Diego. His mother reported his abuse to the elders, but they didn't call police or warn the congregation. The abuser, Gonzalo Campos, confessed in front of the elders to abusing one child in 1982. Despite his confession, Campos was promoted to instructor in 1986, promoted to ministerial servant in 1988, then to elder in 1993. Campos would molest eight children before subsequently fleeing to Mexico. The victim was awarded 13.5 million dollars three decades later. During the trial, senior Jehovah's Witness official Richard Ashe said their job was to provide spiritual protection not physical protection.⁸⁶

Prophet Muḥammad (ﷺ) said, "When people see an oppressor but do not prevent him from doing evil, Allāh is about to punish them all."⁸⁷



MANDATED CONFESSIONS

While the Watch Tower Society conceals the crimes of child predators, individuals who commit private acts of immorality, such as dating and drinking alcohol must confess before a board of elders called judicial committees and submit to judgment to see if they are truly repentant.

Amber Scolah, a third-generation Jehovah's Witness from Vancouver, Canada, and author of the book *Leaving the Witness*, explained her sitting before the judicial committee after her boyfriend confessed to them that they had kissed. She said, "We had been taught for our whole lives that God could see everything we did and that if we crossed a line into immorality and we hid it, it was much worse than even the immorality itself and that, when Armageddon came, we'd be killed for that. So, the way to overcome this sin you had committed was to tell the elders in the congregation."⁸⁸

Peter Goutos, a former member of a judicial committee, recalls asking very humiliating questions to young women who confessed to fornication. He said the three-panel board would ask question like, "Did you touch his private parts? How often did you touch his private parts? Was he satisfied in you touching his private parts?"⁸⁹

The correct action for the individual who commits a personal sin in private is to not broadcast their sin, and they must repent to Allāh (ﷻ). The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "All of my nation will be pardoned except those who broadcast their sins."⁹⁰



DISFELLOWSHIPPING

If the Judicial committee deems the sinner unrepentant, they are disfellowshipped. When a member is disfellowshipped, they are completely shunned, emotionally and socially, by all Jehovah's Witnesses, to include family and friends. The practice of disfellowshipping was first implemented in 1952 by Nathan Knorr, the third president of the Watch

Tower Society. An estimated 70,000 Jehovah's Witnesses are disfellowshipped every year. Reasons include giving or receiving blood transfusions, gambling, drug abuse, fornication, boxing, joining the military, and gluttony.⁹¹

Breaking the ties of kinship is a major sin, while keeping the ties of kinship is a means to obtain the pleasure of Allāh (ﷻ) and prosperity in this life. The Messenger of Allāh (ﷺ) said, "Whoever would like his provision to be increased and his life to be extended, let them uphold the ties of kinship."⁹²

Those who commit acts of immorality are advised, admonished, and encouraged. They are not excommunicated. 'Abū Dardā passed by a man who was being punished because of a sin, and the people hurled insults at him. He said, "Do not revile your brother, and praise Allāh Who has protected you from sin. If you saw him trapped in a well, wouldn't you rescue him and bring him out?"⁹³



PREACHING METHODS

Jehovah's Witnesses' strategy for unsolicited door to door preaching begins inside the walls of their churches, named Kingdom Halls. Leaders distribute specialized territorial maps of residential and commercial areas to their adherents responsible for preaching in a particular area.⁹⁴

Members are instructed to fill out monthly report slips on their preaching activity, listing the hours spent, publications placed with homeowners, and the number of return visits made to households where interest

had been shown. Those who commit themselves to proselytize for 70 hours per month are called regular pioneers. Those who commit themselves to proselytize for 50 hours a month are called auxiliary pioneers.⁹⁵

Until the mid-90s, each member of the Jehovah's Witnesses was required to purchase their two publications, *The Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines, in cash, at their local Kingdom Hall to distribute to the public. The two magazines had a combined yearly sale of 500 million copies. This provided a tremendous profit margin for the Watch Tower Society.⁹⁶ When the Supreme Court ruled religious materials were subject to taxation, the Watch Tower Society ceased the sale of their magazines and began requesting donations from its members.

After the COVID-19 outbreak of 2020 halted their door knocking crusade, they implemented the strategies of mailing personalized, handwritten letters and making telephone calls using contact information obtained from public directories. They even use the assumed language of the recipient in their letters to attempt to gain trust.

Jehovah's Witnesses also read the obituaries⁹⁷ and then use an internet search engine to obtain the addresses of the surviving family. They pen individual letters to family members during their moment of grief, with an enclosed pamphlet titled *Can the Dead Really Live Again?*



THE AIMLESS KNOCK AT THE DOOR

Jehovah's Witnesses believe Heaven is reserved for 144,000 elite individuals who have already been selected. According to their belief, if you were to enter their religion, you have absolutely no chance to enter Heaven. Instead, you will live on an earthly paradise alongside the unrighteous who rejected their message.

Jehovah's Witnesses believe actions in this life have no consequence, and everyone shall be resurrected with a clean slate.

They believe both the righteous and unrighteous, as well as the believers and non-believers, will be given another opportunity to attain salvation during the thousand-year millennium when Jesus, himself, will invite them to accept their message. Charles Russell said, "There will be a universal opportunity for every person, past and present, not previously recipients of a heavenly calling, to gain everlasting life on earth during the Millennium."⁹⁸

The Watch Tower Society said, "The unrighteous include billions of people who did not have the opportunity to know Jehovah. Even though they died, Jehovah hasn't forgotten them. He will resurrect

them, and they will have the opportunity to learn about Him and serve Him.⁹⁹ Jesus calls the place where they are brought back to live Paradise.¹⁰⁰

Jehovah's Witnesses believe the only punishment for evil, oppression and sin, is death. Thus, if you reject their message, there is no penalty of Hell, instead you would only die a second time.

The only tangible benefit to becoming a Jehovah's Witness, according to their doctrine, is to survive Armageddon. Yet those who do not survive Armageddon will never be punished in Hell; but rather, they will be resurrected to live in an earthly paradise! Not to mention, each of their predictions for Armageddon has failed to materialize.

Based upon the above-mentioned beliefs, my sincere question to the Jehovah's Witnesses is, "Why are you knocking on our doors?"

According to your doctrine, if someone were to enter your religion, they have absolutely no chance to enter Heaven.

According to your doctrine, those who reject your message will be resurrected with a clean slate.

According to your doctrine, both the righteous and unrighteous will be resurrected to live in an earthly paradise together.

According to your doctrine, everyone will receive a second opportunity to accept your message during the thousand-year millennium.

According to your doctrine, there is no punishment of Hell for rejecting your message.

Therefore, according to your own doctrine, your unsolicited, unremitting door knocking, and proselytizing has no value and no consequence.

The correct belief is found in the statement of the final messenger sent to mankind, Prophet Muḥammad (ﷺ). He said, “Whoever testifies that nothing has the right to be worshipped except Allāh, alone, without partners, and Muḥammad is His servant and His messenger, and Jesus is His servant, His messenger, and His word which He bestowed on Mary, and a spirit created by Him, and Paradise is true, and Hellfire is true, then Allāh will enter them into Paradise with the deeds they have done.”¹⁰¹

Thus, we invite you to accept this truth, embrace pure monotheism, embrace the religion of Islām.

Allāh (ﷻ) said:

﴿قُلْ يَا أَهْلَ الْكِتَابِ تَعَالَوْا إِلَى كَلِمَةٍ سَوَاءٍ بَيْنَنَا وَبَيْنَكُمْ أَلَّا نَعْبُدَ إِلَّا اللَّهَ وَلَا نُشْرِكَ بِهِ شَيْئًا وَلَا يَتَّخِذَ بَعْضُنَا بَعْضًا أَرْبَابًا مِّنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ فَإِنْ تَوَلَّوْا فَقُولُوا اشْهَدُوا بِأَنَّا مُسْلِمُونَ﴾

Say, “O people of the Scripture, come to a word that is equitable between us and you, that we worship none but Allāh, and that we associate no partners with Him, and that none of us shall take others as lords besides Allāh.”

Then, if they turn away, say, “Bear witness that we are Muslims.”

[Sūrah 'Āli 'Imrān 3:64]

All praises belong to Allāh, the Lord of all that exists. May Allāh (ﷻ) exalt the rank and send peace upon the final messenger, Muḥammad, the son of 'Abdullāh.



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